



## H.R. 2356, Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act

Today, the House will consider H.R. 2356, Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act. Yesterday, the House adopted the rule for considering the bill. The rule makes in order the following three substitutes, each debatable for 40 minutes, in the following order:

**Armey Substitute (#13)** - Bans all party soft money, including soft money for voter registration and GOTV. Also bans corporations and labor unions, including tax exempt organizations from using soft money for voter registration and GOTV activities even with their members and shareholders. (40 minutes)

**Ney Substitute (#14)**-Contains the provisions of the Shays-Meehan bill that passed in the 106th Congress, which does not track the Senate-passed bill and does not reflect pre-conferencing agreements between House and Senate reform supporters. Further, it undermines the ability of Legal Permanent Residents to participate in the political system by prohibiting anyone who is not a U.S. citizen or national from making campaign contributions. (40 minutes)

**Shays-Meehan Substitute (#9)**- The substitute bans soft money, and reins in sham issue ads. It contains provisions designed to enable the party committees to raise more hard money for doing GOTV and voter registration, to enable tax-exempt organizations to increase voter participation, and to enable state parties to use capped soft money contribution to do some voter registration and GOTV. The bill takes effect November 6, 2002. This is the carefully crafted bipartisan compromise worked out with the Senate to avoid the death sentence of a conference committee. (40 minutes)

**The House Democratic leadership strongly urges a no vote on the Armey and Ney substitute, and a Yes vote on Shays-Meehan.**

**The following “perfecting” amendments were announced by the Republican Leadership. The amendments will be taken up as recognized by the Speaker and each is debatable for 20 minutes:**

**Armey-Ney (#25)** -- The amendment would strike the bill's provision which allow leftover soft money to be spent for the building fund for national parties after the bill's enactment.

**Armey-Ney (#26)** -This is substantially similar to the Ney substitute of last summer. The amendment fails to ban federal soft money, fails to ban state soft money, and



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raises hard money limits by enormous amounts, allowing individuals to give nearly half a million in an election cycle to the national parties.

Arney (#27) - The amendment would exempt all public communication relating to the 2nd Amendment of the Constitution from the bill's ban on sham issue ads.

Arney (#28) The amendment would exempt all public communication relating to the veterans, military personnel, and seniors from the bill's ban on sham issue ads.

Arney (#29) - The amendment would make the bill effective immediately, despite the fact that the election is only 6 months out. The Shays-Meehan substitute is effective right after the election.

Arney (#30) - The amendment would exempt all public communication relating to workers, farmers and families from the bill's ban on sham issue ads.

Arney (#31) - The amendment would exempt all public communication relating to civil rights from the bill's ban on sham issue ads.

Arney (#32) - The amendment specifies that nothing in the bill will be construed to abridge the First amendment.

Arney (#33) - The amendment strikes the Levin provisions that allow state and local party to used capped soft money for GOTV and voter registration even for state and local elections.

Arney (#34) - An anti-immigrant amendment to prohibit any foreign individuals including legal permanent residents from making contributions to federal candidates. This amendment discriminates against Legal Permanent Residents and limits their ability to participate in the political system.

**The Democratic Leadership strongly urges a no vote on all of the Arney amendments. They are all poison pills. They are simply designed to drive off supporters, send the bill to conference, where it will die. Never before in the past 25 years have we come so close to enacting campaign reform. Stand up for the people of America and not the special interests. Vote NO on the Arney amendments.**



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**The following amendments were announced by Representative Meehan and Shays. The amendments will be taken up as recognized by the Speaker and each is debatable for 20 minutes:**

**Shays-Meehan/Green-Burr (#11)** - The amendment would strike the Torricelli language in the bill, which makes broadcast time purchased at the lowest unit rate non-preemptible.

**Shays-Meehan/Capito (#10)**- The amendment would triple individual contribution limits for candidates whose opponents use more than \$350,000 of their own money to finance their campaign.

**Shays-Meehan/Wamp (#12)** - The amendment would increase contributions for both House and Senate candidates from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

**All Members are strongly encouraged to vote AGAINST all GOP Leadership poison pill amendments and GOP substitutes and FOR the bipartisan Meehan-Shays bill on final passage.**

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